



Energy Star Appliance Rebate Program to Launch February 1, 2010

\$6.1 million To Be Available for Rebates That Target Heating and Cooling systems

For Immediate Release

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(Indianapolis)--- The U.S. Department of Energy today approved Indiana's Energy Star Appliance Rebate program, which will begin February 1, 2010. The program will provide Hoosier homeowners with a rebate up to \$500.00 when they purchase an Energy Star rated Furnace or Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning (HVAC) system. The rebate could be as high as \$1,000.00 if a Geothermal Heat Pump is purchased.

A total of \$6.1 million has been made available to Indiana for the program, which is part of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act funding that is being administered by the Indiana Office of Energy Development (OED).

"Consumers can save more money and more energy by replacing a furnace than any other appliance in the home," said Brandon Seitz, Director of OED. "And it's the only appliance where replacing an older or worn out unit is also a safety issue."

Indiana's version of the rebate program is expected to give a boost to some Indiana manufacturing companies, including WaterFurnace, the Ft. Wayne company that is the world's largest manufacturer of Geothermal systems.

Many utility companies offer their own rebates for purchasing energy efficient furnaces and HVAC systems. When other rebates exist, the addition of the new Energy Star Appliance Rebate will increase the total amount Hoosiers could receive for replacing their heating and cooling system. In areas of the state where utility-based rebates are not offered, the Energy Star Appliance Rebate will stand alone.

The Energy Star program requires appliances have a certain minimum energy efficiency to gain the Energy Star seal. Energy Star has rated a variety of heating and cooling systems, including gas or oil furnaces and boilers, Air Source Heat Pumps and Geothermal Heat Pumps.

Rebates will be based on documentation of the purchase and installation. The program is on a first come, first served basis and will be discontinued when the rebate fund has been exhausted. The program will not be retroactive, so any purchase must be made after January 31, 2010 to be eligible for a rebate. Documentation will also be required showing the unit is Energy Star rated. For more information about the Energy Star rating system, and for a list of Energy Star rated heating and cooling systems, visit the Web site www.energystar.gov.

Now that Indiana's Energy Star Appliance Rebate program has been approved, administrative procedures will be ramped up. All the information about how Hoosier homeowners can apply for the rebate program will be posted on OED's Web site, www.energy.IN.gov when available.

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The Office of Energy Development (OED) was created in December 2005 as an extension of the Indiana energy office. Under the leadership of Lt. Governor Becky Skillman, OED is responsible for the state's energy policy. For more information visit www.energy.in.gov. or follow OED on twitter, IndianaEnergy.

For updates from the Lt. Governor and the agencies she oversees, please sign up at www.in.gov/lg/